

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reexamination of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

A. SUMMARY OF THIS AMENDMENT

By the current amendment, Applicants basically:

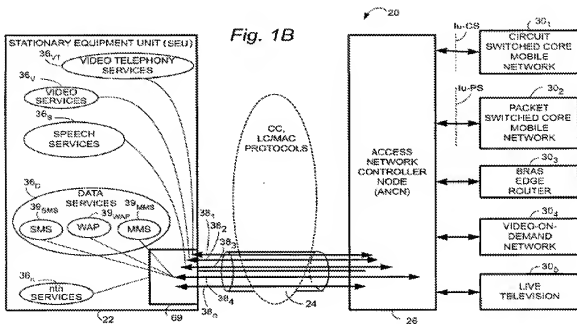
1. Thank the Examiner for the courtesy and cooperation in scheduling and conducting the May 7, 2009 telephone interview with the undersigned.
2. Editorially amend the dependency of claim 30, thereby mooted the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph.
3. Amend independent claims 2, 4, 15, 17, and 24.
4. Editorially amend or otherwise amend the dependencies of claims 6 – 12, 18 – 23, 28, 30, and 34.
5. Add new independent node claim 37 and claims 38 – 45 dependent thereon.
6. Add new independent method claim 46 and claims 47 – 53 dependent thereon.
7. Cancel claims 1, 2, 5, 13 – 14, and 33 without prejudice or disclaimer.
8. Respectfully traverse all prior art rejections.
9. Request a one month extension of time.

B. STATEMENT CONCERNING THE INTERVIEW

A telephone interview was held on May 7, 2009 involving the Examiner and the undersigned. In the telephone interview the undersigned discussed limitations of the independent claims, possible distinctions thereof relative to U.S. Publication 2002/0062379 to Widegren, and possible claim amendments. No agreement was reached. The undersigned indicated that likely the filing of a RCE would be forthcoming. The Examiner indicated that, were an RCE filed, a further search might be conducted.

C. SELECTED COMMENTS CONCERNING APPLICANTS' DISCLOSURE

In one of its aspects Applicants' disclosure concerns a node of a communications network (known as the ANCN node 26 in Fig. 1) which dynamically establishes one or more access bearers to a stationary equipment unit (SEU 22 in Fig. 1). The stationary equipment unit is connected to the ANCN node 26 by an essentially fixed location physical link 24. The ANCN node 26 is configured so that a media service offered by one or more external networks (30) can be provided through the node 26 to the stationary equipment 22.



D. THE CLAIM AMENDMENTS AND NEW CLAIMS

Independent apparatus claims 2 and 4 and independent claim method claims 15 and 17 have been amended to specify that the fixed location physical link which has the stationary equipment unit as a first of its endpoints; and that the differing types of the media services offered by one or more external networks can be concurrently provided through the node and on the same physical link to the stationary equipment. That the physical link has the stationary equipment unit as a first of its endpoints is supported, e.g., by ¶[0061] and page 6, line 2 of the specification, as well as the drawings. That the media services offered by one or more external networks can be concurrently provided is

supported, e.g., by page 8, line 3; that the media services are provided on the same physical link to the stationary equipment is supported by, e.g., the drawings.

Independent claims 17 and 24 have been amended to require that the stationary equipment unit be a Third Generation Partnership Project (3GPP)-compatible stationary equipment unit. For support, see, e.g., ¶[00074].

New independent claim 37 concerns Applicants' ANC node and specifies that the node comprises plural interfaces, a connection control unit, a bearer service processing unit, and a port. The limitation of plural interfaces is supported, e.g., by ¶[0078] on page 17 of the specification. The connection control unit is configured to establish multiple concurrent access bearers for providing the stationary equipment unit with types of access bearers and services as are provided to a WCDMA user equipment unit. For support, see, e.g., connection control unit 100 and ¶[0077] as well as ¶ [0014]. The bearer service processing unit is configured to map the multiple concurrent access bearers into packets of a transport protocol of a single essentially fixed location physical link, with differing ones of the multiple access bearers being configured for utilization by the differing types of the media services. For support, see, e.g., bearer service processing unit 102 and ¶[0077] of the specification.

New dependent claim 39 specifies that the multiple concurrent access bearers carry connections for plural services of its associated type of media service, and thus resembles dependent claim 3.

New dependent claim 39 specifies that the node is further configured to communicate with the stationary equipment unit over a UTRAN (Universal Mobile Telecommunications Terrestrial Radio Access Network) dedicated control channel (DCCH) as if the node were communicating over an air interface with the WCDMA user equipment unit [see, e.g., specification ¶[0092] for support], but with the connection control unit using an information element of the dedicated control channel (DCCH) conventionally used in a UTRAN message for radio resource information for conveying transport channels instead [see, e.g., specification ¶[0098] for support].

New dependent claim 40 specifies that the node is configured to use a modification of UTRAN (Universal Mobile Telecommunications Terrestrial Radio Access Network) radio resource control (RRC) protocol wherein physical parameters related to radio resources have been removed and of information elements which relate to a transport layer for the physical link have been added [see, e.g., specification ¶[00131] for support].

New dependent claim 41 specifies that the node is configured to reuse TrCH transport channels information elements of a UTRAN (Universal Mobile Telecommunications Terrestrial Radio Access Network) Connection Control (CC) protocol which otherwise pertain to radio resources for conveying the transport channels [see, e.g., specification ¶[00108] for support].

New dependent claim 42 specifies that the node is radio network controller (RNC) node of a UTRAN (Universal Mobile Telecommunications Terrestrial Radio Access Network) and is configured to use aspects of the UTRAN RLC/MAC and RRC protocols which are common to or borrowed by the CC/MAC (Medium Access Control) and Link Control (CC) protocols of media access network [see, e.g., specification ¶[0087] for support].

New dependent claim 43 requires that the node be configured to setup the multiple concurrent access bearers using UTRAN (Universal Mobile Telecommunications Terrestrial Radio Access Network) messages in which a traffic descriptor information element has been substituted for a radio resource information element [see, e.g., specification ¶[00101] *et seq* for support].

New dependent claim 44 requires that the node be configured to utilize a medium access control (MAC) protocol and a link control (LC) protocol which respectively are modifications of a UTRAN MAC protocol and a UTRAN RLC protocol [see, e.g., specification ¶[00132] for support].

New dependent claim 45 specifies that the node is configured to communicate over the fixed location physical link with the stationary equipment unit being a Third Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) terminal which does not have or does not use its radio part for access to the media services provided through the node [see, e.g., specification ¶[0074] for support].

New independent method claim 46 is a selected blend of limitations from independent claim 17, independent claim 40, and dependent claim 40.

New dependent method claims 47 – 53 are method analogues of dependent claims 38 – 39, and 41 – 45, respectively, and accordingly are comparably supported.

E. PATENTABILITY OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-8, 10, 12-19, 21, 23-27, 30-31 and 33-36 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication 2002/0062379 to Widegren. Claim 32 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Publication 2002/0062379 to Widegren in view of U.S. Publication 2002/0103009 to Sato. Claims 9, 20 and 28 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Publication 2002/0062379 to Widegren in view of WO 03/003767 to Soininen et al. Claims 11, 22 and 29 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Publication 2002/0062379 to Widegren in view of U.S. Publication 2002/0177446 to Bugeja. All prior art rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Applicants have previously noted that the Final Office Action appears to equate Widegren's PDN Access Point 14 to be the claimed node which dynamically establishes one or more access bearers to a stationary equipment unit, and Widegren's Multimedia System 16 to be the stationary equipment unit. Further, enumerated paragraph 4 of the final office action states that the claimed fixed location physical link is realized by packet data network 18. The final office action further takes the position that the Widegren radio access network 12 could be the claimed "external network" which offers the multimedia service. See Widegren Fig. 19, a reproduction of which follows.

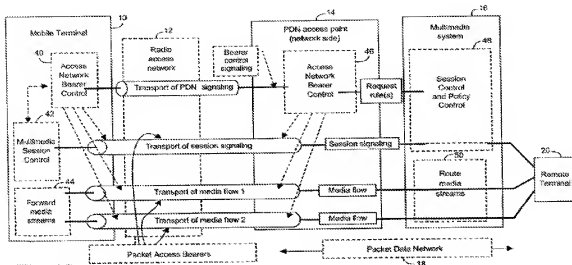


Fig. 19

Applicants contend that the rejection and the above summarized interpretation of U.S. Publication 2002/0062379 to Widegren is incorrect for many reasons.

First, Widegren's bearers are established on the left side of Widegren's Fig. 19, i.e., between access network bearer control 40 and access network bearer control 46. See, also, the bottom left of Widegren's Fig. 19 which shows the location of the packet access bearers, as well as the right column of page 8 of U.S. Publication 2002/0062379 to Widegren.

Secondly, Widegren's Multimedia System 16 is not at an endpoint of a fixed location physical link, as is required by independent claims 2, 4, 15, and 17, for example.

Thirdly, it is incorrect to consider Widegren's radio access network 12 as the claimed "external network" which offers the multimedia service, as radio access networks are not multimedia service providers but rather conduits through which the multimedia services are transmitted.

Fourth, U.S. Publication 2002/0062379 to Widegren does not teach or suggest the claim requirement of the "same" physical link to the stationary equipment. If either

Widegren's multimedia system 16 or remote terminal 20 are alleged to be the claimed stationary equipment, Widegren's provision of a router 50 (see Fig. 19) clearly indicates that the Widegren packets are not transmitted on the same physical link (no router would be necessary were the Widegren packets transmitted on the same physical link).

As previously mentioned, the office action's interpretation of Widegren would require the media flow to be directed in reverse, e.g., from Widegren's PDN Access Point 14 to Widegren's Multimedia System 16.

The office action equates the Widegren Multimedia System 16 with the claimed stationary equipment unit. The interpretation of the office action is thus contrary to conventional and industry practice. The stationary equipment is an end user terminal which can be equivalent to the mobile terminal. In industry practice the stationary equipment is connected to the fixed access network while the Multimedia System is a set of HW and SW equipment connected to a Packet network and to an IP network or the internet where the IP technologies protocols and rules are applicable.

New independent claim 37 has further distinctions and specifies with more particularity the claimed node with reference to its interfaces and the fact that, e.g., the node can establish multiple concurrent access bearers for providing the stationary equipment unit with types of access bearers and services as are provided to a WCDMA user equipment unit.

F. MISCELLANEOUS

In view of the foregoing and other considerations, all claims are deemed in condition for allowance. A formal indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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